

## JOHN BIGELOW, 90 YEARS OLD

HOLDS AN ALL DAY RECEPTION FOR HIS FRIENDS.

Who Shower Him With Flowers and Compliments—Testimonial From 300 Members of the Century—Political Views—Four Generations of the Family There.

John Bigelow, lawyer, journalist, statesman, diplomat, and citizen, celebrated his ninetieth birthday in his home, 21 Gramercy Park, yesterday. Rather, his friends celebrated it for him, as the veteran sat quietly in the reception room while all the morning messages of congratulation and flowers were brought to him and all the afternoon friends called to pay their respects.

With him during the afternoon reception, for although not formally arranged for, grew to be such, were numerous members of his family. There were four generations represented in the room when Mrs. Butler K. Harding, daughter of Mr. Poulney Bigelow, called with her child, John Bigelow's first great-grandchild.

With all who came to him, Mr. Bigelow chatted in lively spirits, refreshed for the social features of the day, he confessed, by attending to some important business matters which had been brought to him in the morning and which could not be delayed.

"Yes, I work," he said to one who expressed surprise that he should not have made it a whole holiday. "I work to keep out of mischief. No," he added a little more seriously, "I work so that I may not drag superfluity on the stage. And it is much to be permitted to work at 90."

"I belong to an aristocracy, you see, an aristocracy not in danger of becoming overcrowded, not even so numerous as not to be distinguished. No king or potentate—except the One above—has power to appoint to our ranks."

"I should like to send a message through you," he said to a *SUN* reporter, "to my friends, but I should want a little quiet and repose to prepare anything for print and here come my good friends bringing messages to me instead."

"They have been very kind. What pleased me most, perhaps, is that testimonial from my friends of the Century Club. I am president of the club. I guess Stedman had to do with getting that up. It was kind and thoughtful of each signer, but you know how such things are; they do not get themselves up."

Mr. Bigelow referred to a parchment, four feet high, with the names of about two hundred members of the Century in four columns beneath an engrossed testimonial which read:

THE CENTURY, Nov. 2, 1907.

DEAR SIR:—The approach of your ninetieth birthday moves us to express to you the gratification which the auspicious event affords us. Life cannot be too long which, like yours, has been one of constant devotion to the interest of your country and the welfare of mankind.

Your public career has been marked by patriotism, zeal in defending the right and eminent literary and diplomatic achievements; while the multitude of your friends and admirers, of all ages and of all nations, attest the excellence of your social gifts.

Wishing you many happy returns of the anniversary and continued health and strength, to enjoy them, we have the honor and pleasure to subscribe ourselves

Yours respectfully,

Mr. Bigelow was a fine study as he greeted his friends, his head often thrown back to turn a pleased glance at some favoring in flower device a member of the family would take from the latest arriving box or to laugh as when a mighty package revealed a bag filled with golf clubs all in flowers.

The veteran's abundant hair is not white but gray, as are his flowing side whiskers, of an old fashioned cut. Noting these and the color in his face one could imagine him a youngster of 70 uncommonly well preserved.

Some of his callers referred to Mr. Bigelow's earlier work as proprietor and editor of the *Evening Post* half a century ago, as Minister to France during our War of the Rebellion, to his work under Gov. Tilden as a member of the Canal Commission in 1875 or later as Secretary of State of New York.

He accepted these allusions as compliments of the occasion, but his interest was keenest in what was said by those who spoke of the events of to-day. It was plain to be seen that he is not living in the past but in the present and future, for only recently he had this to say on the question of "Presidential possibilities."

"I cannot say that I have in my mind at this moment any such person who would be able to get the nomination, but I believe he would be even willing to accept it. Most any man equal to the position would be reluctant to accept it. There are plenty of men in this country quite equal to such a task, but unfortunately—and it is another illustration of the vicious influence of our tariff system—they have been attracted by the high salaries which protected industries can afford to lavish upon first class talent. There are many men now conducting the great enterprises of the country who are quite as competent to fill the President's chair as any who have ever occupied it. Our country has always abounded in men whose capacity for wisely managing the affairs of a great nation could not be equaled, so far as the public knows, by the sovereigns, Presidents, or executive officers of any other country in the world. The difficulty is that the legislation of the country since our civil war has made the conditions by which high public status is generally obtainable so humiliating that such men shrink from it, while the rewards of talent and capacity in civil life are more attractive, if not more abundant."

In all his talks Mr. Bigelow freely expresses the opinion that the Democratic party, in the event that it finds a man deserving the nomination, "who would be willing to accept it," must nominate him on a tariff reform platform if it hopes to elect its candidate.

## REMEMBER EVACUATION DAY.

Daughters of the Revolution Hold Reception at Fraunce's Tavern.

The State Society of the Daughters of the Revolution observed evacuation day by giving a luncheon and reception in Fraunce's Tavern, at Broad and Pearl streets, at which Mrs. John Howard Aked, regent of the society, presided. The souvenirs were china ware embellished with the picture of the old tavern and a portrait of Washington. The reception was in the long room and the luncheon on the fourth floor. Among the guests of the society were Edmund Wetmore, president of the Sons of the Revolution, State society, and Henry Russell Drowse, the secretary, both of whom made brief addresses to the company. Others who took part in the celebration were Mrs. Ashbel P. Fitch, Miss Josephine Wandell, vice-regent; Mrs. Wilbur F. Wakeman, treasurer; Mrs. Zeb Mayhew, secretary; Mrs. George B. Wallace, Miss J. K. Leland, Mrs. Charles W. Dayton, Mrs. R. F. Fisher, Mrs. W. H. Hotchkiss, Mrs. H. W. Helder and Mrs. David C. Carr.

Metropolitan Inquiry Goes Over.

The investigation of the purchases by the Metropolitan of the franchises of the Wall and Cortlandt Street Ferries Railway Company will not be continued for about two weeks, when it will be taken up by the December grand jury. It is understood that Mr. Jerome and his assistant, Mr. Kneel, want time to look over certain evidence that has been brought out before the grand jury.

## THE IRISH LINEN DEPOT

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## PRESIDENT BUTLER ATTACKED

By Columbia's "Convention Bulletin"—To-night's Gathering.

President Butler of Columbia is attacked in an editorial of the last issue of the *Convention Bulletin*, published at the university as the organ of the class in party methods and modern politics, which is to hold a mock convention in the university gymnasium to-night. The editorial was entitled "L'Université, C'est Moi" and began by attacking President Roosevelt for "sending a fleet of battleships to no particular place, for no particular reason," but went on to state that the President is at least controlled by the Cabinet to a certain extent. Continuing it said:

But take the case of President Butler. He holds his position for life, being only subject to removal by charges preferred against him, and is therefore not only theoretically but actually an absolute ruler. If he wishes to make some radical change in the attitude of the university either toward athletics or some other branch of student activity, he does not have to be, and seldom is, influenced by the fact that the university as a whole is opposed to his action. Two examples of this will suffice. Against the wishes of the whole student body and a large portion of the alumni, intercollegiate football was abolished. A formal protest was made, but to no avail. Then intercollegiate football was asked for. To this request the president does not seem to desire to make any answer at all. Again, it has always been customary that in a scientific course a man who gets a mark of over 80 per cent. is excused from the examination. Contrary to the will of the majority of the faculty the president has abolished this privilege, which has always been one of the greatest stimuli for hard work in these courses. Are these conditions in conformity with the alleged democracy of a university?

Dr. Butler denied the charge as a "scurrilous attack." None of the students in charge of the convention would admit the name of the writer.

The convention that is to be held to-night promises to be one of the biggest affairs that has ever taken place at Columbia. Elaborate plans for the evening session have been prepared. Timothy L. Woodruff is to preside as permanent chairman and several other politicians have promised to be present. The students have hired four brass bands and a torchlight parade will be held on Morningside Heights early in the evening.

From all indications Gov. Hughes will receive the nomination, with Taft running a close second.

The Marylanders have adopted this yell: "Take a little, take a little, booze, booze, booze! Maryland, Maryland, Hughes, Hughes, Hughes!"

The evening session, when the nominations will be made, will begin at 7:45 and is open to the public.

## TWO COPS ON A BENDER.

Wandered From Their Beats Clear to West Point—Both Fined and Another "Broke."

Commission Bingham yesterday handed out punishment to three patrolmen, which in the case of two at least constitutes almost a record.

Charles F. Hayes and Edward J. Shoemaker, two patrolmen attached to the West Point-seventh street station, were each fined as follows: For making false statements to their superior officers, thirty days pay; for being absent without permission while delegated to reserve duty, fifteen days; for being absent from out-going call, one day. This makes a total of forty-six days pay for each man.

The charges grew out of a trip the two men took four weeks ago Saturday. While they were having a few drinks when supposed to be on reserve duty that day they entered their heads that there was a football game at West Point between the Army and the Carlisle Indians. In full uniform they boarded a steamer for West Point. On the way up, it was charged, they continued drinking, and before the boat landed raised an aggravated row. They were aided in this by a number of rowdies aboard with whom they fraternized. Army officers aboard took the men's numbers and later made a report of the whole performance to Gen. Bingham.

Another incidental result of the row, it is said, was that the boat on the next Saturday found herself warned off from leaving. Not until some other officers, who were on the boat did some lively talking across the water was the boat permitted to tie up, and then only after a delay which made most of the passengers late at the game. The two patrolmen got back from their junket too late for duty with the outgoing platoon.

The third man, James P. Gleason, a mounted cop of the Bronx Park station, was "broke." His dismissal is the result of his brutal and insulting of a girl whom he spoke to on 126th street, near Lenox avenue, on October 25. A bystander who expostulated was clubbed. This ended in Gleason's being arrested on charges of assault, for which he is awaiting trial.

Ruby Helen Blake Sues Her Husband.

Justice MacLean in the Supreme Court reserved decision yesterday in a suit for divorce brought by Ruby Helen Blake against Ernest Linwood Blake. Blake had interposed a counterclaim for divorce, naming Preston F. Peace as correspondent, and Edith K. Peace testified that last week she had obtained in Brooklyn a divorce from Ernest F. Peace on the ground of his intimacy with Ruby Helen Blake.

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## AT THE STANFORD WHITE SALE

DAVID WARFIELD AND WILLIAM R. HEARST BIDDERS.

Top Mark of the Day, \$240. Paid by Prof. Bashford Dean for a Suit of Armor—William Astor Chanler a Buyer—Sale Continues To-day—Some Prices.

Near the end of yesterday's session of the Stanford White sale at the American Art Galleries Prof. Bashford, dean of Columbia University, helped bid a suit of armor up to \$240, and then, figuratively speaking, walked away with it. It was the biggest individual sale of the day. Mr. White paid \$380 for the armor at the Heber R. Bishop sale a few years ago.

This sale is called a "supplementary" one. Many of the objects were selected for Stanford White's own use and others were intended for use in homes he might be called upon to design. A few, bought by Mr. White for his clients but not used as originally intended, are included in the sale and in the catalogue are marked with an asterisk so that you may know them.

David Warfield went early and plunked himself down in a chair up in front near William R. Hearst and about at the spot where David Belasco did his bidding at the White sale last spring. The very first thing offered, a miniature chair carved and gilded, Mr. Warfield appropriated at \$11. From then on the bidding at Auctioneer Kirby's behest was spirited and when the session closed the satisfactory total of \$7,278 had been reached.

Others seated in the front rows were Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Alexander, Mrs. John E. Cowden, Mrs. Hermann Oelrichs, Mrs. Daniel Bacon, Mrs. Hobart Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Edson Bradley, Cass Gilbert, V. Everet Macy and the preferably anonymous woman who bids under the name "Chelsea."

After David Warfield's chair came a candlestick—a hippopotamus tusk supporting two candle branches. It went to William Astor Chanler, and a moment later Mr. Chanler also got a pair of Salsburg vases. The Tiffany Studio and M. I. L. Pruyn went eagerly after Spanish-Moorish plaques and what they wanted sometimes came as low as one figure. A Spanish falience plaque went to Edson Bradley at \$20. Object No. 21 was a Rhymon—a reduced production of a famous Roman original. Mr. Warfield took notice and it was his for \$40. The attendants held aloft a pair of snuff boxes, ram's head design, wrought in silver and mounted on real ram's horns. Warfield again, \$17.50 apiece for the pair. For \$17.50 also Mrs. Bennett acquired a guitar fashioned from the shell of an armadillo.

When a pair of antique Moorish pottery vases appeared, with cherubim on the handles, a raised coat of arms and clusters of fruits, flowers and leaves, Mr. Hearst frowned, but not at the cherubim. That is Mr. Hearst's way of bidding. He got the jar for \$80.

Warning paid, bids proved attractive to Mrs. Owens. There were five of them on the list and she bought them all, paying \$20 for one and \$15 for the others. An antique Dutch plaque, with tree and a serpent convenient, were worth \$70 to Mrs. Herbert Warren, and two antique Japanese kensans of gilded brass, with lotus scroll and tasseled designs, worth \$28 to Mrs. Daniel Bacon.

The lamps arrived. An Italian one, designed for a sanctuary, was William Astor Chanler's for \$15. And then a Chinese—four brass bells, three of them inscribed: *Proffidit Antonius Gamarinus Bononiensis, MDCLXXXIV*. Bids flashed up all over the room but stopped where J. Herbert Johnston said "Two hundred and ten," and at that figure Mr. Johnston won out.

Cass Gilbert bought an antique Italian reliquary for \$20, and a French coat of arms for \$80. And for \$60 again David Warfield got an eucasson of carved and gilded wood.

Folks stood up when the attendants huddled in what seemed to be an oddity for a Stanford White sale—a full rigged frigate some four feet long. Frank D. Millet got it for \$135.

The next to the last item was another curiosity, seventeen old Chinese rain hats of woven bamboo, for wall decoration. They went to Architect Cass Gilbert for \$8.

The sale will continue at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon. Tapestries will be to-day's feature and marbles to-morrow. On Friday evening the offering will be pictures.

## BROOKLYN ASKS MORE SUBWAY.

Delegation Urges an Extension to the Willink Entrance.

Timothy L. Woodruff, chairman of the Republican State committee, backed by several State Senators and Assemblymen from Kings and a number of Brooklynites of prominence, appeared yesterday before the Public Service Commission to urge the extension of the Brooklyn subway from the present terminal at Flatbush avenue to the Willink entrance of Prospect Park. The extension would be about a mile long.

Mr. Woodruff and the other speakers contended that the new line would go a long way toward solving part of the traffic problem in Brooklyn and that it would tend to lessen the congestion that now occurs at the Flatbush avenue station if the trains were to make their terminal at that point.

The Public Service Commission has for some time past had under consideration the advisability of carrying the subway beyond the Long Island depot and the likelihood is that the appeal made yesterday will meet with favorable response.

Another order to show cause why it should not improve its travelling facilities was served yesterday on the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Company by the commission. It requires the company to present, within ten days, reasons why the maximum service of bridge shuttle trains should not be maintained for a longer period in the morning and evening than they are now.

The commission has had under consideration the operation of the shuttle trains and these men have reported that the company shuts down the shuttle train service in the hours when the greatest number of commuters are using the line.

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It is delicious alone and blends with all wines and spirits to perfection.

LADIES greatly appreciate the delicacy and refreshing taste of PERRIER.

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## REV. DR. AKED JOLLIES US

AT LEAST, SO IT APPEARS TO THE REVOLUTIONARY SOVS.

Anyhow, Our Quarrel Wasn't With England—We Never Had One—It Was With the Georges—Also, There Are Really Two Englands, and the New One Is With Us.

The Rev. Charles F. Aked who arrived here "most too late for last season's post prandial oratory, proved last night that he could make as patriotic an American after dinner speech as any that ever made the eagle scream and, incidentally could do some twisting of that famous old tale, or at least that part of it made up of the English governing classes, as he called them.

Dr. Aked was one of the guests at the dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria last night with which the Empire State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution celebrated the evacuation of New York by the British 124 years ago. Dr. Aked had to stand some twitting on the subject of his ancestors before he got a chance to speak, which helped him along when it came his turn. The dinner was largely attended and was held in the grand ballroom. Men and women sat at the tables and there was the usual parade, led by drummer and fifes in Continentals, which seemed to interest Dr. Aked very much. President William A. Marble spoke of Dr. Aked being a British subject, notwithstanding the fact that he has announced his intention of becoming an American citizen.

In introducing him, Mr. Marble told the diners that they really owed Dr. Aked a debt of gratitude, "because," said he, "without his ancestors there would have been no Boston Tea party, no Evacuation Day and no Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution."

Dr. Aked said that it seemed to him that since the first Evacuation Day a great deal of kindness had been accumulated to permit one so humble to sit at such a dinner.

"The Lord," said he, "will keep us humble while the churches fulfill their purpose and keep up poor. I am poorer than a church mouse and humbler than a microbe. Your humor," he said, continuing, "is so all pervading that an Englishman has not always risen to it. Subtle and sometimes overcharged with moisture, from English stolidity it glides at times harmlessly."

Dr. Aked said that occasion reminded him of the visit a lynching party of last year had paid to the man they had lynched to apologize because it turned out he had been innocent, upon which he said: "I am poorer than a church mouse and humbler than a microbe. Your humor," he said, continuing, "is so all pervading that an Englishman has not always risen to it. Subtle and sometimes overcharged with moisture, from English stolidity it glides at times harmlessly."

"Mingled with your welcome," said Dr. Aked, going on to rub it in, "there is that fondle of splendor superiority that you could hitch to your triumphal car an unfortunate Englishman. I have come from the ranks of men and women who this morning are fighting the battles your ancestors fought, the members of the free churches."

Dr. Aked went on to describe how men have been sent to prison only recently in this fight, but that, as with Erasmus, a martyrdom was not permitted him. "Three times my house was entered, however, and my goods sold over my head for the reasons I have stated," he said. "This ought to win sympathies from sons and daughters of the American Revolution."

"You never had any quarrel with the English people. At the very moment they were fighting the same reactionary Powers and don't think that taxation without representation was invented on this soil. Five hundred years before it was declared in Parliament, your quarrel was with the Georges. You could say the same thing about the English people to-day."

"You've never had a quarrel with the doctrine of the Universal Church, which had been carefully explained to him, was the loophole that they left for the admission of ballot box stuffers and repeaters into the kingdom of heaven."

He admitted that he was pessimistic as to the possibility of ultimate perfection, conversion, reformation or other desirable and commendable state for such persons. Municipal reform, he continued, must work through the educational and moral stages to the militant triumphal stage, after the manner of the anti-slavery movement. The great cities of the United States, were now, he added, in the educational stage.

In conclusion he congratulated New York on the possession of such a magnificent patriotic and efficient organization at the City Club.

George R. Wells of Philadelphia, who was chairman of the evening, brought with him a large delegation of desirable citizens.

About 100 were present.

The Rev. Nebemiah Boynton said that

people who had ancestry to trace in this country had several duties. One of them was to keep virile the religious